

AGENDA ITEM V C

PROGRESS REPORT ON CONDITIONALLY APPROVED PROGRAM

SOWELA TECHNICAL COMMUNITY COLLEGE

ASSOCIATE OF GENERAL STUDIES

AGENDA ITEM V C

PROGRESS REPORT ON CONDITIONALLY APPROVED PROGRAM

SOWELA TECHNICAL COMMUNITY COLLEGE

ASSOCIATE OF GENERAL STUDIES

BACKGROUND INFORMATION

The Board of Regents approved this program conditionally at its meeting on January 27, 2005, stipulating the following:

- 1. By March 15, 2005, the College shall inform the Commissioner of Higher Education of the status of its application to SACS/CoC for institutional candidacy;**
- 2. By September 1, 2005, the College shall submit a report to the Commissioner of Higher Education which documents the College's progress toward hiring four qualified full-time faculty for the program and developing its library to meet SACS-CoC standards;**
- 3. Upon receipt of the report required in #2 above, the Board of Regents shall consider whether additional progress reports will be needed.**

The College has kept the Commissioner informed as to its progress toward SACS/CoC candidacy. It also submitted the report addressing the second stipulation, which the Board accepted on December 8, 2005. The Board continued to require that additional annual progress reports be due every July 1, addressing the hiring of three additional faculty and progress toward institutional accreditation.

STAFF ANALYSIS

1. Need for Additional Faculty

The College advertised for three additional faculty positions this past Spring and has hired two, one in Biology and the other in History. As for the third position (in Physical Sciences), "STCC has received no inquiries." The College will continue to hire adjunct instructors for this area as it explores additional avenues of recruitment.

2. Progress Toward Institutional Accreditation

The College submitted its application in March 2005 and was required to submit additional information, which it did on June 29, 2006. The College has been informed that there may not be time to schedule a site visit in advance of the SACS/CoC meeting in December.

STAFF SUMMARY

The College continues to make progress toward filling necessary faculty positions and achieving institutional candidacy. As indicated in the staff analysis, the College continues to search for a third faculty position and secure a site visit date from SACS/CoC. The staff notes that the SACS Commission on Colleges meets twice a year, once in June and then in December.

STAFF RECOMMENDATION

The staff recommends that the Academic & Student Affairs Committee receive the 2005-06 Progress Report Relative to the Associate of General Studies Program at Sowela Technical Community College. By December 1, 2006, the College shall inform the Commissioner of Higher Education of the status of its search for a third faculty position in the Physical Sciences and its application to SACS/CoC for institutional candidacy.